

Message

From: Lee, Bessie [Lee.Bessie@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/29/2016 11:46:52 PM
To: Rapicavoli, Emmanuelle [Rapicavoli.Emmanuelle@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: Thank you for your letter

Just an FYI about First Mesa and some of the politics with the Polacca water system. It has to do with the Arizona Republic article about Hopi and Arsenic.

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Bessie Lee

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Drinking Water Management Section (WTR-3-1)
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From: Ivan FMCV [mailto:isfmcv@hopitelecom.net]
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 3:36 PM
To: Alfred Lomahquahu <ALomahquahu@hopi.nsn.us>
Cc: lpuhuyesva@hopi.nsn.us; Herman G. Honanie <HeHonanie@hopi.nsn.us>; Lee, Bessie <Lee.Bessie@epa.gov>; Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX) <robert.lorenz@ihs.gov>; Honanie, Wendell <wendell.honanie@bia.gov>; Dale Siquah <dalesinquah@hotmail.com>; Albert T. Siquah <ALSinquah@hopi.nsn.us>; amandasampson1 <amandasampson1@gmail.com>; Alfonso Sakeva <asakevajr@yahoo.com>; FIRST MESA VLGS <sgfmcv@hopitelecom.net>; brannon sidney <brannon.sidney@yahoo.com>; Todacheene, Melvin <melvin.todacheene@bia.gov>; FIRST MESA VLGS <mofmcv@hopitelecom.net>; Chester Carl <ccarl@htha.org>
Subject: Re: Thank you for your letter

Thanks for your reply although it still does not acknowledge the fact that our village operating the water services should have at least been notified. We are today having individuals calling for information which we are obligated to provide. Having experience handling National Press during my past position with the tribe is the basis for my comments. Papers are suppose to provide equality on all stories due to editorial ethics. Like the motto of Gallup Independent. "Truth Well Told". Are you saying I have an issue? yet in your email to Mr Puhuyesva you stated, " As we all work together for that purpose". That's exactly what I am saying, just notify us when it may pertain to our response to operations under our daily management.

From: "Alfred Lomahquahu" <ALomahquahu@hopi.nsn.us>
To: "Lionel Puhuyesva (LPuhuyesva@hopi.nsn.us)" <LPuhuyesva@hopi.nsn.us>, "FIRST MESA VLGS" <isfmcv@hopitelecom.net>, "Herman G. Honanie" <HeHonanie@hopi.nsn.us>, "Lee, Bessie" <lee.bessie@epa.gov>, "Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX)" <robert.lorenz@ihs.gov>, "Honanie, Wendell" <wendell.honanie@bia.gov>, "Dale Siquah" <dalesinquah@hotmail.com>, "Albert T. Siquah" <ALSinquah@hopi.nsn.us>, "amandasampson1" <amandasampson1@gmail.com>
Cc: "Alfonso Sakeva" <asakevajr@yahoo.com>, "FIRST MESA VLGS" <sgfmcv@hopitelecom.net>, "brannon sidney" <brannon.sidney@yahoo.com>, "Todacheene, Melvin" <melvin.todacheene@bia.gov>, "FIRST MESA VLGS" <mofmcv@hopitelecom.net>, "Chester Carl" <ccarl@htha.org>

Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 12:59:32 PM

Subject: RE: Thank you for your letter

Thank you for your reply Mr. Puhuyesva, The Az Republic did contact the Hopi Tribe and we did respond. It is unfortunate that 1st mesa along the Lines of Mr. Sidney's response had an issue. We do not have the editorial right to the Az Republic and how the stories are published. As the former Chairman of the Hopi Tribe Mr. Sidney you should be aware of the press. We are diligently addressing the issues on Hopi and the Health and wellbeing of its members. As we all work together for that purpose I hope that all entities cooperate without politics and or Bias based on the individuals. This includes BIA, The Hopi Tribe and the Village Administrations. That being said we are all accountable to our people. Thank you.

From: Lionel Puhuyesva

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 8:24 AM

To: Ivan FMCV; Herman G. Honanie; Alfred Lomahquahu; Lee, Bessie; Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX); Honanie, Wendell; Dale Sinquah; Albert T. Sinquah; amandasampson1

Cc: Alfonso Sakeva; FIRST MESA VLGS; brannon sidney; Todacheene, Melvin; FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VLGS; Chester Carl

Subject: RE: Thank you for your letter

Mr. Sidney,

This story came about by the AZ Republic reporter contacting the Tribe, it was forwarded to me and I asked the executive offices for permission to talk to this individual. More over this was also brought up in council and the First Mesa Representatives, I believe were in attendance when this was brought up. It took a few days to get the "OK" to talk to AZ Republic. There was no direction as to who was to be talked to, a number of people were interviewed, including myself, and I'm not sure who the reporter interviewed in the villages but it was not solely First Mesa residents that were interviewed. I believe the people who made it into the paper are merely there because they had "better stories" to tell and were more personable. Although it does say First Mesa in there it does elude to that the fact that ¾ of the reservation is not in compliance. I am not sure of the how the reporter chose what was to be in the story or her editor, so just some background.

One thing I want to stress is that we did not solicit this interview it was a request, and honestly I believe it did some good. We have received some calls to ask as how people can help the Tribe with this issue. So I would caution before one goes on a tirade to think of the overall effect that it may have in the interest that has been generated thus far. It has been awhile since this issue has been in the media limelight and in the end any press is good press right?

Also, let me make this clear that all Public Water System (PWS) information is just that "Public" all analytical results that are submitted to EPA are readily available to the public via the internet, nothing is secret because it is a human health issue. This does not only apply to tribes but to the states as well. Any questions let me know.

Thank you.

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From: Ivan FMCV [<mailto:isfmcv@hopitelecom.net>]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 3:06 AM

To: Herman G. Honanie; Alfred Lomahquahu; Lionel Puhuesva; Lee, Bessie; Lorenz, Robert (IHS/PHX); Honanie, Wendell; Dale Siquah; Albert T. Siquah; amandasampson1

Cc: Alfonso Sakeva; FIRST MESA VLGS; brannon sidney; Todacheene, Melvin; FIRST MESA CONSOLIDATED VLGS; Chester Carl

Subject: Fwd: Thank you for your letter

I had no choice but to contact the newspaper. I wonder why we were not informed and why it only focused on First Mesa and using First Mesa people. When will we all start working together in honesty. We struggle every day to provide water and meeting EPA testing requirements. Yet, the Hopi Tribe elect to listen to village politicians to hold onto our escrow funds which can help improve our water services. It is very evident that the tribe used the Sichomovi Administration who chooses to place obstacles in our efforts to provide services under our self-governing status. We may have to release our own press release to place the blame where it rightfully should be. I administer the water system on a daily basis and have the working information on the issue. We can not totally place the blame on the government, especially EPA. It is EPA that is assisting us with funding projects to improve our systems. In the past years the tribe paid lawyers millions of dollars to lawyers and consultants which could have remedy our water problem. Our critical problem is the Hopi Tribal governments financial none audit status with the federal government. I would like to hear your comments or suggestions.

From: "The Arizona Republic | azcentral.com" <noreply+38056bc8d94b84a9@formstack.com>

To: "FIRST MESA VLGS" <isfmcv@hopitelecom.net>

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 2:37:16 AM

Subject: Thank you for your letter

Confirmation for form Letters to the editor submissions

Submitted at 08/25/16 2:37 AM

Name: Ivan Sidney

Address: P.O. Box 260
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United States

Email: isfmcv@hopitelecom.net

Phone: (928) 205-5504

**Write your
letter in
the space
below:
(1,200** Your article on Hopi
Community water
system having high
levels of arsenic is only
focused on one village

characters maximum): providing some information on the entire history of the problem. This problem exist in six of the twelve villages including the BIA Headquarters located at Kearns Canyon. The BIA and Indian Health drilled these wells for our schools and turned them over to our villages. Hopi Tribe in 2006 obtained a waiver from EPA to use the tainted water until they bring another water source. This waiver expired in January of 2015. This project is far from providing us the alternative water. I am a Hopi from First Mesa and administer our village water system. I am a former cancer patient in remission. I suffered from lymphoma caused by the 1950 Nevada testing downwind. I am trying to address the issue by our own village government but faced by our own tribal and village politics. Our village government is under our traditional form of government and do not receive funds from the Hopi Tribe. We are required to provide water having arsenic and must comply with strict testing requirements at our own expenses. I hope our struggles can also be told and heard. We were never contacted for information.